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## Meaning of SPONGE

Pronunciation: spunj

### WordNet Dictionary

- Definition:**
1. [n] primitive multicellular marine animal whose porous body is supported by a fibrous framework; usually occurs in sessile colonies
  2. [n] a follower who hangs around a host (without benefit to the host) in hope of gain or
  3. [n] a porous mass of interlacing fibers the forms the internal skeleton of various marine animals; also a porous rubber or cellulose product similarly used
  4. [v] gather sponges, in the ocean
  5. [v] wipe with a sponge, so as to clean or moisten
  6. [v] soak up with a sponge
  7. [v] erase with a sponge; as of words on a blackboard
  8. [v] ask for and get free; be a parasite

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**Synonyms:** bum, cadge, grub, leech, mooch, parasite, parazoan, poriferan, sponger

**See Also:** absorbent, absorbent material, collect, efface, erase, follower, freeloader, garner, gather, glass sponge, invertebrate, mop, mop up, obtain, pass over, phylum Porifera, Porifera, pull together, rub out, wipe, wipe off, wipe up

**Webster's 1913 Dictionary****Definition:**

1. \Sponge\, n. [OF. esponge, F. ['e]ponge, L. spongia, Gr. ?, ?. Cf. {Fungus}, {Spunk}.] [Formerly written also {spunge}.]
    1. (Zo["o]l.) Any one of numerous species of Spongi[ae], or Porifera. See Illust. and Note under {Spongi[ae]}.
    2. The elastic fibrous skeleton of many species of horny Spongi[ae] (keratosa), used for many purposes, especially the varieties of the genus {Spongia}. The most valuable sponges are found in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, and on the coasts of Florida and the West Indies.
    3. Fig.: One who lives upon others; a pertinacious and indolent dependent; a parasite; a sponger.
    4. Any spongelike substance. Specifically:
      - (a) Dough before it is kneaded and formed into loaves, and after it is converted into a light, spongy mass by the agency of the yeast or leaven.
      - (b) Iron from the puddling furnace, in a pasty condition.
      - (c) Iron ore, in masses, reduced but not melted or worked.
    5. (Gun.) A mop for cleaning the bore of a cannon after a discharge. It consists of a cylinder of wood, covered with sheepskin with the wool on, or cloth with a heavy looped nap, and having a handle, or staff.
    6. (Far.) The extremity, or point, of a horseshoe, answering to the heel.
- {Bath sponge}, any one of several varieties of coarse commercial sponges, especially {Spongia equina}.
- {Cup sponge}, a toilet sponge growing in a cup-shaped form.
- {Glass sponge}. See {Glass-sponge}, in the Vocabulary.
- {Glove sponge}, a variety of commercial sponge ({Spongia officinalis}, variety {tubulufera}), having very fine fibers, native of Florida, and the West Indies.
- {Grass sponge}, any one of several varieties of coarse commercial sponges having the surface irregularly tufted, as {Spongia graminea}, and {S. equina}, variety {cerebriformis}, of Florida and the West Indies.
- {Horse sponge}, a coarse commercial sponge, especially {Spongia equina}.
- {Platinum sponge}. (Chem.) See under {Platinum}.
- {Pyrotechnical sponge}, a substance made of mushrooms or fungi, which are boiled in water, dried, and beaten, then put in a strong lye prepared with saltpeter, and again dried in an oven. This makes the black match, or tinder, brought from Germany.
- {Sheep's-wool sponge}, a fine and durable commercial sponge ({Spongia equina}, variety {gossypina}) found in Florida and the West Indies. The surface is covered with larger

and smaller tufts, having the oscula between them.

{Sponge cake}, a kind of sweet cake which is light and spongy.

{Sponge lead}, or {Spongy lead} (Chem.), metallic lead brought to a spongy form by reduction of lead salts, or by compressing finely divided lead; -- used in secondary batteries and otherwise.

{Sponge tree} (Bot.), a tropical leguminous tree ({Acacia Farnesiana}), with deliciously fragrant flowers, which are used in perfumery.

{Toilet sponge}, a very fine and superior variety of Mediterranean sponge ({Spongia officinalis}, variety {Mediterranea}); -- called also {turkish sponge}.

{To set a sponge} (Cookery), to leaven a small mass of flour, to be used in leavening a larger quantity.

{To throw up the sponge}, to give up a contest; to acknowledge defeat; -- from a custom of the prize ring, the person employed to sponge a pugilist between rounds throwing his sponge in the air in token of defeat. [Cant or Slang] ``He was too brave a man to throw up the sponge to fate.''' --Lowell.

{Vegetable sponge}. (Bot.) See {Loof}.

{Velvet sponge}, a fine, soft commercial sponge ({Spongia equina}, variety {meandriniformis}) found in Florida and the West Indies.

{Vitreous sponge}. See {Glass-sponge}.

{Yellow sponge}, a common and valuable commercial sponge ({Spongia agaricina}, variety {corlosia}) found in Florida and the West Indies.

2. \Sponge\, v. t. [imp. & p. p. {Sponged}; p. pr. & vb. n. {Sponging}.]
  1. To cleanse or wipe with a sponge; as, to sponge a slate or a cannon; to wet with a sponge; as, to sponge cloth.
  2. To wipe out with a sponge, as letters or writing; to efface; to destroy all trace of. --Hooker.
  3. Fig.: To deprive of something by imposition. ``How came such multitudes of our nation . . . to be sponged of their plate and their money?'' --South.
  4. Fig.: To get by imposition or mean arts without cost; as, to sponge a breakfast. --Swift.
3. \Sponge\, v. i.
  1. To suck in, or imbile, as a sponge.
  2. Fig.: To gain by mean arts, by intrusion, or hanging on;

as, an idler sponges on his neighbor. --E. Eggleston.

The fly is an intruder, and a common smell-feast,  
that sponges upon other people's trenchers.  
--L'Estrange.

3. To be converted, as dough, into a light, spongy mass by the agency of yeast, or leaven.

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## Computing Dictionary

**Definition:** A special case of a Unix filter that reads its entire input before writing any output; the canonical sort utility. Unlike most filters, a sponge can conveniently overwrite the input file with the output stream. If a file system has file versioning (as ITS did and VMS does now) the sponge/filter displays its usefulness, because directing filter output would just write a new version.

See also slurp.

[Jargon File]

**Websites:**

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## **Dream Dictionary**

**Definition:** Seeing or using a sponge in your dream, suggests that you easily absorb new knowledge and The dream may also be a metaphor indicating that you are "sponging off someone". You are b dependent and need to find your own path.

**Websites:**

## **Easton Bible Dictionary**

**Definition:** occurs only in the narrative of the crucifixion (Matt. 27:48; Mark 15:36; John 19:29). It is ran zoophyte. It is found attached to rocks at the bottom of the sea.

**Websites:**